

BETTER STOCKMEN OUR GREATEST NEED

Unless You Are Willing to Study as Well as Work, It Will Be Best for You Not to Go Into the Livestock Business.

The Progressive Farmer.

This is a delicate subject and the man who tells the plain truth about it, is not likely to increase his popularity. But, candidly, I believe this to be the solemn truth, and, "for the sake of me," I can't see how it could be otherwise.

We have been growing cotton for generations and have not yet learned to produce a half-bale to the acre. We have been growing corn for as long a period and have not yet reached an average yield of 20 bushels per acre. In view of these facts it is any wonder that, not having given any particular attention to stock-raising, we have not learned that business? Indeed, if we had under the agricultural system of the past produced a mass of competent stockmen, the wonder would pass all human understanding.

At the risk of wounding the feelings of some over-sensitive reader, I believe I shall assume that we are not good stockmen. It is always easier to assume that a thing is true than to prove it, even though it may appear self-evident; but if anyone takes exception to this assumption, that our greatest need in livestock lines is better stockmen, let him produce his facts and arguments and I will meet the issue squarely. For the present, let us discuss that question and discuss methods by which this need is to be supplied. How are the farmers of the South to learn the livestock business?

Let us be frank, for the truth is always best. In my opinion, the present generation of Southern farmers will never learn to be good stockmen. If poets are born, not made, the same truth applies with about equal force to good stockmen. At least, it is generally necessary for a man to grow up with livestock to learn the business. The boy who starts breeding and feeding livestock when young has a fair chance of liking and learning the business; but the man who takes it up later in life usually fails to like it and does not learn it so readily, if at all. But no one need feel discouraged at this. The business is a complex and big one and if we make even slow progress and in the course of the next two or three generations learn to breed and feed livestock successfully no more should be expected.

These observations apply to Southern farmers as a whole; but it does not follow that many individuals will not become good stockmen and make the business a success.

In any section of America, probably not more than one man in a hundred is by nature fitted for breeding pure-bred stock and probably a much smaller proportion of Southern farmers are suited for such a business; but this need not be regarded as a serious matter. The kind of stockmen the South needs is the one who can successfully produce more livestock on his farm as a part of the regular farming operations. What we need is more horses and mules for farm work, more pork, mutton, beef, and milk and butter to supply our farms and feed the cities and towns of the South. The breeding of pure-bred stock for breeding purposes will take care of itself.

If it be true, as often stated, that the raising of livestock requires more knowledge than any other kind of farming, then as our people become better educated, as our schools are improved and the school terms are lengthened, a long step will have been taken towards the production of better stockmen.

At present the greatest obstacle to stock raising in the South is the general dislike for the close and constant attention it requires. It is true, that if we knew more about it, so that it would prove more profitable, we would like it better, but we cannot learn it without practicing it and the progress is, therefore, necessarily slow.

Those who would learn the business must accept and adopt a few basic facts:

1. That livestock are only profitable when well fed and cared for.
2. That feed is not grown for livestock, but that livestock are kept to consume and market feeds and leave on the farm the plant foods taken from the soil in their growth.
3. That the feeding and care of livestock is a constant and exciting business.
4. That to learn how to feed livestock the most profitably it is necessary to add to their own experience, what others have learned in the past.
5. That the learning of the business will require much study, as well as hard, practical work.

To start with, every man who wishes to learn and make a success of producing livestock, should begin with only a few animals, the best he

can get. Then he should obtain from his state experiment station and the United States Department of Agriculture all available literature on the subject. To this free literature let him add a good livestock paper and a few good books. When all these are obtained he should study them, not merely read them or glance through them and throw them aside. If they seem hard to understand, that is all the more reason for mastering them. They will not be mastered without study or hard work. To conclude that terms like "protein," "carbohydrates," and "balanced rations" are too hard to understand, or unnecessary, is to insure failure at the start. This knowledge is one of the necessary tools of the livestock man, just as much as are feeds and livestock, and the man who thinks otherwise will never be a good stockman. It is our failure to appreciate the value of this sort of knowledge that is largely responsible for the fact that we are not better stockmen.

The feeding of livestock is a great big business and knowledge is as powerful in compelling success in this as in any other line of business in which man is engaged.

FEATURES OF FALL FASHIONS.

The New York Dry Goods Economist, in an article on fall fashions for women, states that a tendency toward practical and simple styles is apparent in all lines. In women's garments it brings into special prominence the tailored cut and finish, and even the more elaborate models have an air of severity and plainness. The figure changes are slight with a definite tendency toward the high collar, narrow shoulder, set-in sleeve and defined waist curve. The waistline is at the normal point or slightly below it. The full skirt will continue but will not be carried to extremes. Conservative widths are from 2 to 2 1/2 yards in suits and from 2 1/2 to 3 yards in dresses with greater fullness for all novelty effects.

The skirts of suits and tailored dresses are mostly in modified circular, flare or plaited effect. In many cases, plaits are introduced at the sides. Pockets and belts are still favored. Skirts of dressy frocks are sometimes in draped effect, and a few have a very long tunic with under-petticoat of different material. Practically all of the street suits and wraps and day dresses have long sleeves. Close-fitting effects lead, but there are novelty forms showing considerable fullness, introduced in various ways. Closer fitting lines, with a curve accentuated under the bust, are a leading feature in dress bodices. The backs are straight and the hips only moderately emphasized. In the low-waisted dresses the bodice shows straighter lines, although there is a slight hint of the natural figure line.

The dressy blouses match the suit in color and are made of chiffon, silk and Georgette crepe, with crepe de chine in flesh-color and in white for the more practical types. For these semi-tailored finish is preferred. The sleeves are mostly long and the collars are either high and snug-fitting or flat.

In suits, coats, dress bodices and blouses the collars are mostly high and close-fitting. A few open in the front. Many coats and suits have collars which can be worn either high or low. In waists and dresses this idea is some times carried out, but the strictly high or low lines are preferred.

Various types and lengths are seen in suit coats. Those reaching the finger tips or slightly below dominate in the lines. A few redingotes are also included in the showings. Belts are used to some extent. Flare effects are also in evidence. The strong tendency is in favor of Russian blouses.

The tendency is strongly in favor of separate coats in seven-eighth lengths or covering the dress. Many are made in flare effect, and this is often accentuated by trimmings at the bottom. The Russian influence and the redingote are in high favor.

Somber hues will have the largest adoption. Dutch, navy and crow's wing blue, tete de negre, taupe, olive and mouse, bottle and myrtle greens are the leading colors for street wear. For evening wear standard shades, rather than eccentric colors, will have the call.

In silks, ribbed weaves are gaining, but taffeta is retained. Serges, poplins, broadcloths, velours and checks are the five favorites in dress goods.

Simplicity of outline and meagerness of trimming characterize the new season hats. Much of the garniture will be in the form of appliques. Signal ornaments will also be seen. Colors are dark. Velvet and silk covered shapes, as well as pressed felts, are in evidence. Beaded novelties are a strong feature, as also are crewel embroideries. Buckle ornaments in cut steel and in nickel are prominent in the lines.

TIMELY FARM SUGGESTIONS.

The Progressive Farmer.

Our readers should and will continue to increase their purchases of livestock for breeding purposes, but we give one word of advice. Don't purchase any kind of livestock until you are quite sure you have made provision for feeding it. Better still would be the advice not to buy livestock until you have the feeds on hand. This is not advice against the best interests of those who have livestock for sale. If the breeder or dealer be wise he does not want to sell breeding stock to any man who fails to make a profit out of it. It is to the interest of both the seller and buyer of breeding stock that it return a profit to the purchaser.

Without cheap feeds this is not probable, and unless the feeds are produced on the farm they are never cheap. It is better to have a little too much feed for the livestock on hand than to run short of feed and have to buy. Bought feeds are always relatively higher, because they have added to their original cost freight and other handling charges, which are always relatively high because feeds are bulky raw products.

When oats and crimson clover are sown together for hay-making, the turf or Virginia grazing oat should not be used. An earlier variety that will mature more nearly the time the crimson clover is in the right stage for hay should be used. The Red Rust-proof varieties serve this purpose better. The Fulghum, being very early, is highly recommended by some farmers for this purpose.

Prepare the land early for alfalfa. It is rather an expensive crop to sow. The seed are high-priced and on all soils not well supplied with lime an application of this is a necessity. If one makes such preparation that success is assured considerable expense is justified, but insufficient preparation of the soils is likely to result in failure and the loss of the seed and effort employed. A finely pulverized, firm seed bed, a rich, well drained soil, early fall seeding, a liberal application of lime, and inoculation, will almost certainly result in success with alfalfa.

If any Southern cattleman doubts the growing appreciation in the north of the feeding value of cottonseed meal, he should visit the cattle breeding farms of Iowa and Missouri. The writer, on a recent trip through those sections, was a little surprised to note with what regularity cottonseed meal was found in the troughs of the feed lots. In silage, roughage such as corn stover, cottonseed hulls, or low-grade hays that are not marketable at the usual high price of hays and cottonseed meal, the farmers of the South can, when they put the same care and knowledge into the business, furnish beef cattle as cheaply and as well as can be done in any section of the United States.

EVENTS OF THE PAST.

In the days of our youth, there were two great events in each year, the commencement at Due West as held in old Lindsay Hall and the annual meeting of the Abbeville County Bible Society. The ways of getting to Due West were discussed for weeks before commencement, clothes were saved up for days and everybody went to the city of colleges prepared to listen to the speeches, make the rounds of the society halls, and to get soaking wet on the afternoon of the "girls day."

The Bible Society at Abbeville was also an occasion to be remembered, and people came from every section of the county to hear the address and the sermon. Having an address and a sermon made it an all day affair and everybody in town had company for dinner. The meeting of the society was always held in one of the churches and as a child from our office window, one of the sights of the day, immediately after the ringing of the bell, was to see Gen. McGowan, Judge Cothran, Hon. W. H. Parker and Mr. L. W. Perrin come up from Law Range, two abreast, on their way to attend the meeting of the Bible Society. They walked with one hand behind their backs, and wore a very solemn air. Indeed it was a great occasion when the Bible Society met in Abbeville.

The Society still meets with us, but it is no longer an eventful occasion, and some of the visitors who came to Abbeville last Wednesday, we are sure, were forced to return to their homes in the different parts of the county without dinner, for the very excellent reason that the two Abbeville house keepers, who attended the meeting, were only prepared for four guests each.

There were delegates from all over the county, Due West sending fifteen visitors and delegates. There were four ladies and eight gentlemen present from the city of Abbeville.

DAIRYING OR BEEF PRODUCTION.

The Progressive Farmer.

A young friend wants my advice as to whether he should go into dairying or raise beef cattle. He has 250 acres, 150 in cultivation and 50 acres of rather rough, but fairly good pasture.

If this young man lives on his farm, is not afraid of regular hard work, and has the ability to manage a dairy, we have no hesitation in stating that dairying will be found more profitable. But it requires more work, more brains and probably more capital to run a dairy. I do not mean to say that to raise beef cattle does not require a high degree of intelligence, but in the dairy business he not only has to care for, feed and manage the cattle as he does in beef production, but he must also handle the milk or other dairy products. The dairy business adds an addition of marketing the milk or manufacturing it into other products which must be marketed.

But for this extra work, brains and capital, good pay may be expected. There is no safer or more profitable line of farming in the South today than dairying, if the dairyman lives on his farm, obtains and uses the dairy knowledge which is available, keeps good cows and produces the feeds economically. And among the profits obtained the increase in soil fertility is not to be ignored.

On the other hand, while beef cattle production may be made profitable with less labor and with less close personal attention, the best results even in that line will not be obtained without a knowledge of the business and close attention to it. It will probably be as profitable for what is put into it as dairying, but it requires less and gives less in return. We get out of a business about what we put into it of labor, capital and intelligence or knowledge. We say dairying is more profitable because we think it gives an opportunity to put more into it, but unless more is put into it even less may be taken out.

THE COW AND HER PRODUCT.

(These notes are prepared by the Dairy Division of Clemson College, which will be glad to answer any questions pertaining to dairying.)

Cottage cheese is one of the best hot weather dishes for supper.

Be sure to milk with dry hands. Dipping fingers in the milk means dirty milk.

Milk fast and milk the cow dry. A calf never sucks slowly and never leaves any milk if possible.

A good buttermaker deserves a good wage and will always get it from somebody.

How much do you pay your milkers? There is no work more important. Cheap milkers ruin cows and get less milk.

It is a good plan to feed the cow her grain while milking. It is best to feed grain and roughage separately.

A pasture of burr clover and Bermuda grass and a silo full of silage make the dairyman independent of the weather.

If you are going to have to depend on root crops this winter, plant an acre of rutabaga turnips. This is a good time for planting.

Buttermilk should be sold wherever cream is sold. Arrange to supply the people in your town with good buttermilk.

Remember that now is the time to get your burr clover seed to plant on your Bermuda sod. There is a good supply of burr clover seed in South Carolina this year.

A change of milkers means a change in the manner of milking and a loss of milk until the cow becomes accustomed to the new milker.

Butter is one of the oldest articles of food. Do you eat good butter or poor butter? Good butter is easy to make when you know how and will always sell well. Poor butter is hard to sell.

It is better to cooperate and purchase good bulls so as to get better blood in your herd than to cooperate to try to hold up the price of milk produced by poor cows.

TEXAS PEAS.

Talking of peas, it is only when market gardening news in Texas is perused that one comprehends to the utmost what is going on in that line.

Just imagine, for instance, carloads and even trainloads of fresh peas bound for the North from the country of which Athens is metropolis. Athens is now widely recognized as the great pea-raising center of the United States. Two dollars a bushel is about the prevailing price this year, and growers are not reported as discontented. Incidentally it may be said that the Texas pea, and, maybe, the pea of other states, grows "right cheerfully on poor soil," and it does not have to be handled with gloves in either the picking or the packing.

ABOUT PELLAGRA.

Dr. Joseph Goldberger Interviewed in Savannah.—To Diet Epworth Orphan—A Meat and Milk Diet. Disease Not Infectious.

"Seeing is believing," and it is upon this basis that the United States bureau of public health has instituted a campaign for the absolute eradication of pellagra at the Epworth Orphanage in Columbia, S. C., according to Dr. Joseph Goldberger, head of the department of pellagra research.

This work at the orphanage at Columbia will take the form of a demonstration to those who have tried for the last eight years to do away with pellagra at this institution and have not succeeded. Instead of decreasing the number of cases each year, there were more at the end of the last year than at any other time, it is asserted.

"Naturally," said Dr. Goldberger in speaking of the cost of this undertaking, "it is going to cost the government some money, but it shows, when we agree to furnish part of the diet necessary for the treatment of pellagrins, how thoroughly we are convinced that the disease is brought on solely by improper dieting, and because we are positive that with a well-balanced diet pellagra can be absolutely done away with. The work will be begun about September 1.

Pellagra Not Contagious.

"I can not emphasize too strongly the fact," said Mr. Goldberger, "that pellagra is not communicable. Of course there are a number of its phases that have led many to believe that it was contagious or infectious, but from our studies covering a great period of time and carried on under all conditions, we are certain that there is nothing of a communicable nature to pellagra.

"To further clinch the argument that pellagra can not be communicated from one person to another take the results of our experiments upon the monkeys we have at the hospital.

"We have inoculated these monkeys with every kind of disease and they take it rapidly, yet when we inoculated them with pellagra they refuse to take it. Smallpox, whooping cough, measles, in fact almost every kind of a disease has been tried on the monkeys and they have always been susceptible, but with the pellagra there is nothing doing. By the fact that they do not take pellagra, while they do take away other diseases, it is proven almost conclusively that pellagra is not communicable."

"Own a Cow" Still the Slogan

"Own a cow," is still the slogan of the department of pellagra research, and if the farmers can be educated to the point where they realize that by owning a cow, keeping it in good condition, and using the milk derived therefrom, they are lessening the chances of their getting pellagra because of their one-sided diet, the department believes that it will have done something towards stopping the ravages of pellagra. Of course milk alone will not prevent pellagra, but when the farmer has milk, and eats meat and eggs instead of selling them to the city folks, he will never have pellagra, the experts say.

Government Prescribes Diet

In describing the work to be done at the Epworth Orphanage at Columbia, Dr. Goldberger said it would be nothing more than the feeding of the 250 inmates of the institution on a diet prescribed by the bureau of public health. This diet, which includes foods of a varied sort and of high nutritious value, is the one that has been tried on inmates of other institutions in the country with the result that after a time pellagra has been wiped out entirely.

"Of course," concludes Dr. Goldberger, "just because a man who has pellagra decides to eat a rational or well balanced meal once in a while, is no sign he is going to get rid of the disease. The idea is to feed the patient on the diet for a fixed period of time and let him have nothing but this diet. Then when the treatment is over, the patient will be free from pellagra, but as long as he returns to the foods that he had been specializing on previous to his being given the government diet, he will lay himself liable to getting pellagra again.

"The best plan," said Dr. Goldberger, "is to eat plenty of meat and eggs and drink milk. Do not eat too much of just one kind of food and you will never have pellagra."

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Many a woman has worn her mind to a frazzle by changing it so often.

RECIPES BY MISS PLATT.

Yellow Pickle.

1 large head cabbage, 2 quarts green tomatoes, 2 quarts white onions, 1 dozen green peppers. Cut all vegetables small, put in an earthen ware vessel and sprinkle with water. Let stand all night and in the morning scald in the same brine. Heat three quarts of vinegar and with a little cold vinegar, make a smooth paste with three cups of flour, 3 cups of brown sugar, 3 tablespoonfuls of mustard, 2 tablespoonfuls of tumeric. Pour into the hot vinegar and stir constantly. When well mixed, add the drained vegetables and cook 20 minutes. This pickle does not have to be sealed.

Mustard Pickles.

1 large cabbage, 4 qts. green tomatoes, 2 qts. white onions, 4 qts. small cucumbers, 1 pt. salt, 1 dozen green peppers, 2 cups flour, 1 gallon vinegar, 1 large box mustard, 4 cups brown sugar, 2 teaspoonfuls celery seed, 2 teaspoonfuls tumeric, 2 teaspoonfuls white mustard seed.

Put vegetables into a granite vessel, sprinkle with salt, cover with water and let stand all night. Scald in the same brine and then drain. Heat the vinegar and pour in the vegetable, stirring constantly. Mix the seasoning into a paste with a little cold vinegar and add to the vegetables and cook for 20 minutes.

Tomato Savoy.

Scoop out tomatoes, fill each with chicken salad, dressed with mayonnaise. Put in refrigerator and when frozen, serve on lettuce leaves. An attractive dish.

Pumpkin Chips.

Peel the pumpkin the day before you are ready to cook it, slice into thick pieces, weigh and to every four pounds of pumpkin add three pounds sugar, and 1 gill of lemon juice. Put this in a large bowl over night, the next morning pour off the juice and boil 15 minutes. Add the pumpkin and cook for about one-half hour or until it is clear like kisses. If juice is not thick enough it may be cooked longer. Save some of the lemon skins and cut up and throw into the preserves while cooking.

Tomato Ketchup.

1 gal. of tomatoes, measured after they are cut up. Cook 10 minutes and rub through a sieve. To juice add 3 cups brown sugar, 3 tablespoonfuls salt, 1 tablespoonful black pepper, 1 tablespoonful mustard, 1 tablespoonful cinnamon, 2 teaspoonfuls spice, 1 teaspoonful cloves, 1 qt. vinegar. To make very hot, add more pepper and mustard.

Peach Sweet Pickle.

To four pounds of peaches use 1 pint vinegar, and 1 1/2 pounds sugar. Peel peaches and stick three or four cloves in each then drop into the boiling syrup of the above vinegar and sugar. Let boil until a fork goes in easily, then pack in jars, and pour the syrup over the peaches until the jars are quite full.

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